

Message Text

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SUBJ: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: FIRST JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: MOSCOW 16059

1. APPRECIATE SOVIET EFFORT TO PREPARE PROGRAM RESPONSIVE TO DESIRES OF TRANSPORTATION DEL. UPON US CHAIRMAN BINDER'S RETURN TO WASHINGTON JANUARY 2, WE WILL RESPOND TO PROPOSED PROGRAM. BINDER'S INVOLVEMENT IN ENERGY CONSERVATION AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION POLICY MATTERSPROBABLY WILL PRECLUDE EXTENSION OF VISIT AS PROPOSED. IF THIS PROVES TO BE CASE, DELEGATION WILL COUNTERPROPOSE A PROGRAM DRAWING UPON THE EXCELLENT SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN SOVIET PROPOSAL. SEPTTEL WILL FOLLOW ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. AS TO OTHER MATTERS RAISED IN REFTTEL; (A) SEVERAL MEMBERS OF U.S. TRANSPORTATION DELEGATION WISH TO VISIT PATON INSTITUTE IN KIEV FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON RESIDUAL STRESS MEASUREMENT IN METAL FABRICATION AND WELDING QUALITY CONTROL. (PAR. 2. REFTTEL). (B) U.S. SECTION JOINT COMMITTEE APPRECIATES SOVIET OFFER TO PAY ALL EXPENSES FOR LENINGRAD PORTION OF VISIT BUT MUST DECLINE AS IT UNCLASSIFIED

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WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RECIPROCATATE COURTESY WHEN HOSTING SECOND JOINT

COMMITTEE MEETING IN THE U.S. (PAR. 2. REFTEL). (C) QUOTE PROTOCOL UNQUOTE LISTING OF MEMBERS U.S. DEL FOLLOWS SEPTTEL. AS TO SEATING ARRANGEMENTS PLENARY SESSION, ANTICIPATE ENTIRE U.S. GROUP WOULD SIT AT CONFERENCE TABLE. AS WE ARE PROPOSING (SEE PAR. 3. BELOW) CONCURRENT WORK GROUP LEADER MEETINGS IN BRIDGING, TUNNELING, RAILROAD OPERATIONS, AND POSSIBLY OTHER AREAS, SIZE OF U.S. GROUP WOULD BE APPRECIABLY REDUCED ONCE FORMALITIES OF PLENARY SESSION OPENING DISPENSED WITH AND WORK GROUP LEADERS RETIRE FOR THEIR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. (PAR. 3. REFTEL).

(D) ADDITIONAL FACILITIES TO BE VISITED WILL BE INCLUDED IN SEPTTEL COMMENTING ON SOVIET PROGRAM PROPOSAL. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, SOVIETS SHOULD INCLUDE VISIT TO MINISTRY OF RIVER FLEET FOR COAST GUARD MEMBER OF DELEGATION, AND MVD INCLUDING GAI FOR BINDER AND RAMUNDO. DURING LATTER VISIT, INVITATION OF SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION BRINEGAR WILL BE EXTENDED TO MVD MINISTER SHCHELOKOV FOR U.S. VISIT OF SOVIET HIGHWAY SAFETY DELEGATION IN SPRING 1974.

FYI. VISIT OF MINISTER SHCHELOKOV, FIRST SUGGESTED DURING OCTOBER VISIT OF U.S. HIGHWAY SAFETY DEL, WAS CONFIRMED DURING RECENT CALL ON SECRETARY BRINEGAR BY REPRESENTATIVES SOVIET EMBASSY.

END FYI. (PAR. 4. REFTEL). (E) CONCUR IN STAFF PREPARATION OF JOINT RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS DURING TECHNICAL VISITS. U.S. SECTION DRAFT RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWS SEPTTEL. (PAR. 5. REFTEL). (F) PREFER SINGLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ALL MEMBERS DELEGATION (PAR. 6 REFTEL).

3. U.S. SIDE PROPOSES THAT DURING VISIT THERE BE CONCURRENT MEETINGS OF WORK GROUP LEADERS IN BRIDGING, TUNNELING, AND RAILROAD OPERATIONS TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PROJECT ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD BE ACTED UPON BY JOINT COMMITTEE BEFORE ITS ADJOURNMENT. DURING MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE, U.S. SIDE EXPECTS TO PROPOSE AS NEW AREA FOR COOPERATION TRANSPORTATION FACILITATION (E.G., STANDARDIZATION OF TRADE AND TRANSPORT DOCUMENTATION, COMMODITY DESCRIPTION SYSTEMS, ETC.) AND SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES IN ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND ICE BREAKING OPERATIONS UNDER CIVIL AVIATION AND MARITIME TRANSPORT AGREEMENT AREAS, RESPECTIVELY. KISSINGER

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